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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/601,192	07/28/2000	AIMAL SIRAJ		7023

7590 04/27/2005

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ANNANDALE, VA 22003

EXAMINER

KNAPP, JUSTIN R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2182

DATE MAILED: 04/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/601,192

Applicant(s)

SIRAJ, AIMAL

Examiner

Justin Knapp

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 8-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner Notes

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed of record in the file: Amendment After Final as received 09/21/04 and Notice of Appeal as received 10/07/04.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-4 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art in view of Bosch, CAN Specification v.2.0, 1991.

4. Referring to claim 1, Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (herein AAPA) teaches:

a control device (fig 9, element 102), one or more communication terminals (fig 9, elements 104, 105, 106), and a communication device (fig 9, element 101) which connects the control device with the one or more communication terminals, and has one or more communication protocol modules (fig 10, elements 107a-d) for controlling communications of the one or more communication terminals based on control information (fig 10, elements RR0-5) from the control device, characterized in that the communication device includes:
a memory which temporarily stores the control information sent from the control device (see Fig 10, element 102a);

a control information acquisition mean which acquires the control information stored in the memory (there must be a means for the protocol engine (fig 10, element 107) to acquire information from the memory (element 102a);

and that the one or more communication protocol modules implement processing of the control information if a corresponding one or more detection means detect that the control information is meant to be processed by an own communication protocol module (see Specification, pages 1-5, fig 9 and 10).

AAPA does not explicitly teach broadcasting control information to the one or more communication protocol modules. AAPA also does not explicitly teach one or more detection means each being provided in correspondence with each of the one or more communication protocol modules at a front stage of an input side of each of the communication protocol modules, for detecting whether the control information broadcasted by the control information acquisition means needs to be processed by each of the one or more communication protocol modules.

However, Bosch discloses a Control Area Network specification that teaches broadcast communication. A sender of information transmits to all devices on the bus. All receiving devices read the message and then decide if it's relevant (a detecting means) to them. (Bosch, pages 5-9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the teachings of a Control Area Network with the AAPA. One would have been motivated to do this as it guarantees data integrity as all modules in the system use the same information.

5. Referring to claims 2 and 8, Bosch teaches the control acquisition means and the one or more detection means corresponding to the one or more communication protocol modules are connected through a bus (see pages 5-9).

6. Referring to claim 3, the broadcasting method taught by Bosch would allow each of the one or more communication protocol modules taught by AAPA to process all categories of control information.

7. Referring to claims 4, 9, and 10, AAPA in view of Bosch teaches that memory has a control space for temporarily storing control information from the control device to the one or more protocol modules and a status space for temporarily storing status information from the one or more protocol modules to the control device, and that:

the control device writes the control information into the control space of the memory and reads the status information from the status space of the memory. (see AAPA, page 2, last paragraph, and figure 10, element 107 has registers to store control information).

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 5-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Remarks

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin Knapp whose telephone number is (571)272-4149. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri 8:30 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on (571) 272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JEFFREY GAFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Justin Knapp
Examiner
Art Unit 2182

April 20, 2005